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THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" There is a Central Advisory Board of Education which contains almost all the eminent educationists in India and they have indicated their view in the matter."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is not Dr. C. R. Reddi a member of that Central Advisory Board of Education; and is not the view expressed by that Board in their report different from that of this Government? "

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" No, Sir. I am not sure whether Dr. C. R. Reddi is a member of that Board. Whatever it may be, this Government do not agree with him on this question."

Judgment on the Habeas Corpus *application filed by Srimathi Manikonda Suryavathi.*

* 36 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Premier be pleased to state whether the Government have perused the judgment of the High Court in the *Habeas Corpus* application filed by Srimathi Manikonda Suryavathi and what action has been taken to rectify the defects in enquiry, disposal of representations, etc., to which pointed attention has been drawn, especially on the inordinate delay on the part of the District Magistrate in sending replies to references?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON (on behalf of Hon. the Premier) :—" The Government have perused the judgment of the High Court in the *Habeas Corpus* application filed by Srimathi Manikonda Suryavathi. Suitable instructions have been issued by Government to the authorities concerned regarding the avoiding of delays, etc., in respect of cases relating to persons detained under the Madras Maintenance of Public Order Act, 1947."

Adequacy of the staff of nurses, etc., in the City hospitals.

* 37 Q.—MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the hospitals in the City have adequate staff of nurses, male nurses, thoties and other staff; and

(b) whether the Government are aware of the shortage of accommodation and consequent overcrowding in all the hospitals in the City and, if so, what steps the Government are taking to meet the same?

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) The strength of the nursing staff is adequate. The staff of compounders, nursing orderlies, cooks and thoties are sanctioned according to standard scales fixed with reference to the bed strength and whenever there is any increase in the bed strength, the Surgeon-General applies for sanction for the required additional staff.

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"(b) Yes. The question of increasing the bed strength of the Government General Hospital is under consideration, but the problem of accommodation in present financial condition is difficult. To prevent overcrowding in the city state hospitals, the Government are considering a suggestion that patients who come from the mufassal may be asked to produce letters from some medical men mentioning what treatment had been given to them and why it is necessary to admit them in the city state hospitals. The Government are also considering, the question of giving financial help to the Indian Red Cross Society for starting and maintaining a hospital for incurables on the foreshore of the Cholavaram lake to which may be transferred chronic and incurable cases which come to the city state hospitals for treatment."

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is overcrowding in the Mental Hospital; that there are two thousand patients there, while there is accommodation only for 750 patients? Is this not nothing short of criminal—if I may make bold to use such strong language—to allow overcrowding in that hospital, as it stands on a different footing from other ordinary hospitals, where patients are there due to ill-health, and so, they more or less lie in bed or on the floor, and this overcrowding may be allowed there a little. But in the case of the Mental Hospital, Sir, can it be allowed, because the patients there, cannot adjust themselves to society, and therefore will the Hon. Minister see? . . "

THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member should put a supplementary question and not make a speech." (Laughter.)

MRS. MONA HENSMAN :—" Yes, Sir. Is the Hon. Minister aware that there is overcrowding in the Mental Hospital and it is nothing short of criminal to allow it? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" Government are aware of the fact mentioned by the hon. Member, and steps are being taken to prevent overcrowding; and all that can be done is being done."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Are male nurses essential for service? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" I do not know to which class of service the hon. Member is referring."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" I am talking of male nurses."

No reply.

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do Government contemplate to hand over the Temple Garden to the Royapettah Hospital when the Tuberculosis Hospital now located there is removed to Tambaram? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The question is under consideration; but no decision has been taken yet."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that orders were passed to convert and increase certain beds in the

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Royapuram Hospital, but were subsequently withdrawn due to want of finance?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"It may be so. The fact is that we are lack of funds."

MRS. M. N. CLUBWALA :—"Is the Hon. Minister aware that the nurses quarters in the Royapuram Hospital are very crowded and the nurses have to sleep in unhygienic conditions, which is detrimental to their health and work?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—"Arrangements are well on the way to provide them with accommodation, and if even then some could not find accommodation, they may be accommodated in the new nurses quarters that is nearing completion."

Grievances of students who have been denied admission to the Engineering Colleges.

* 38 Q.—SRI L. SUBBARAMA REDDI (on behalf of Sri B. Bhima Rao): Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representations and perused communications in the Press regarding the grievances of students who have been denied admission to the Engineering Colleges in the Madras Province on the ground of their caste; and

(*b*) whether the present Government have decided to allow any percentage of admissions to be made on the ground of merit and, if so, how much?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(*a*) The reply is in the negative.

"(*b*) No reservation on grounds of merit only has been ordered except to the extent that seats for which candidates are not available according to the prescribed communal, linguistic and district basis, will be filled up on the basis of merit only provided district and linguistic quotas are not affected."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Will Government consider the question of abolishing communal rotation for admission to colleges and other educational institutions?"

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"We allot seats according to community and according to district. The idea behind this rule is that this valuable education should be distributed among all the communities and among all the areas."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—"Have Government taken steps to provide accommodation for all applicants for admission, and how far have they succeeded?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"It is not practicable to provide accommodation for all the applicants. We